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Serve breakfast in a warm room and forget about the furnace until real cold weather comes.

Don't burn coal or wood when you don't really need that kind of heat. Use a

PERFECTION SMOKELESS OIL HEATER

It will keep your whole house warm and make you more comfortable for less money. No fires to build—no coal to carry—no ashes to clean up.

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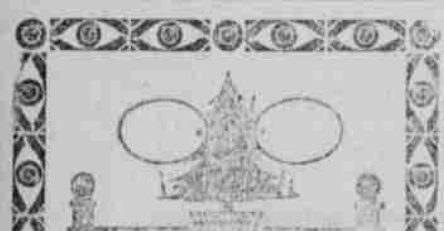
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Raw Furs
Highest New York and Boston
Prices Paid
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Glasses Properly Fitted
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Formerly clinical assistant in the Central
London Eye Hospital, also assistant sur-
geon at the New York Nose and Throat
Hospital.

GEORGE H. THOMPSON, M. D.
PRACTICE LIMITED TO
**EYE, EAR, NOSE
AND THROAT**
118 Ashland
Street
NORTH ADAMS
— — — Ma's.



Our plan of making
glasses a Christmas gift
will enable you to do
something practical—
enable you to make
someone a most useful
gift. That someone will
appreciate your thought-
fulness.

DeWitt E. Lewis
O. D., Oph. R. Optometrist
Near Y. M. C. A.

Postal Service Poorest in Thirty Years
The postal service, of Rutland
and presumably other towns, is at
present the poorest in thirty years.
The blame is not to be laid at the
door of the local officials or as-
sistants. These officials and the em-
ployees are doubtless doing the best
they can under the system that is in
effect. The entire trouble seems to
be attributable to mismanagement of
system.

It is crude, to say the least, that
mail matter arriving in Rutland at
approximately 11 o'clock in the
morning shall not be available to
patrons until more than two hours
later. The explanation locally is
that there is not sufficient help to
handle the business. The explanation
is entirely reasonable. In the
handling of notes and in various other
departments, the Wilson administration
is superlatively capable. In the
transaction of the people's business,
promptly and in a businesslike man-
ner, it isn't a notable success.—Rut-
land News.

**Children Cry
FOR FLETCHER'S
CASTORIA**

**RAW FURS
WANTED**

I have unlimited quantities in large
or small lots of N. W. England and
New York State Furs.
I guarantee to pay you New York
prices on extremely liberal assort-
ment.

Telegraph or write me whenever you
have your furs for sale. I will call on
you for \$200.00 lots and over. Smaller
lots ship or bring direct to

J. H. ROBERTSON
133 Church Street
Housick Falls, N. Y.

Representing Bach Fur Co., 118
West 27th Street, one of the larg-
est, oldest and absolutely finan-
cially strongest Raw Fur Houses
in New York, the largest fur mark-
et in the world.

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Entered at the Postoffice, Bennington,
Second Class Matter.

FRANK E. HOWE, Editor and Pub.
Vermont, Dec. 11, 1903, as

Wednesday, December 9, 1916.

With North Adams dry the sur-
rounding towns seem likely to draw
a strong line of not very desirable
trade but Adams and Housick Falls
being nearer ought to get the most of
it. The Williamstown section of it,
however, is likely to come to Benning-
ton.

Bennington will give a cordial wel-
come to Mr. George P. Martin, the
new superintendent of the soldiers'
home and will wish him well. He
will have no easy job to live up to the
wonderful record made during the
past fifteen years by Thomas Hannon
who has earned the love and esteem
not only of the old soldiers, but of
every citizen of Bennington.

The biennial session of the Ver-
mont legislature opens two weeks
from today. The state of Vermont
will be benefitted more by friendly
discussion of measures proposed than
by the continual knocking which has
become altogether too common in
Vermont whenever the legislature is
mentioned. In this respect some of
the newspapers are the worst offend-
ers.

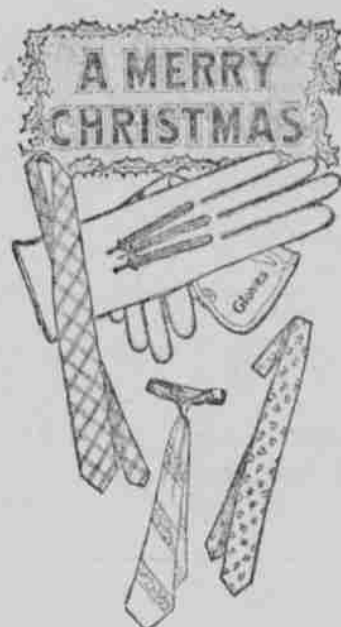
An article on state expenses from
the Enosburg Standard was reprinted
in The Banner a few days ago and is
the most sensible utterance on this
subject that has been printed. The
Standard shows that most of the
much talked about increased state
expenses have been for roads, schools,
state publicity, to educate deaf, dumb,
blind and defective children, to care
for children at the state industrial
school, to promote agriculture and
forestry and for other most laudable
purposes. No doubt a little money is
frivolously away for which the state
gets small benefit, but the amount has

no considerable effect on the total.
Our courts are expensive, but no
more so than in other states and less
than in many and it would be unwise
to try another experiment unless
there is some reason given to indicate
that it would be an advance step. A
few municipal courts in small towns
might well be abolished but those
in the larger towns are worth all they
cost. The plain truth of the matter
is that no way to effect a material
lowering of state expenses is possible
unless the people of Vermont want to
stop the progress that is under way in
Vermont. The state should spend
more money for roads, much more,
the state should provide a home for
orphan children and a detention farm
where the victims of drink and drugs
can be made self supporting and
helped to re-establish themselves for
the benefit of their families. To do
this will cost more money than can
possibly be saved by consolidation of
commissions and the other homeo-
pathic remedies proposed. All over
the civilized world government costs
more because the people demand
more and Vermont might as well face
the inevitable just the same as every
individual has to face the increased
cost of living.

The Republican Rebound
In view of the showing this year
by the Republican candidates for
Congress in Massachusetts, who got
larger pluralities, both actually and
relatively, than the Republicans and
Progressives together in 1914, the
Democrats and some of their recent-
ly acquired allies will have difficulty
in explaining what happened to the
Progressive vote that they were
claiming for their own candidates.
Chairman Thurston's comparison of
the congressional vote of the state
for the two elections which have oc-
curred during his term at the head
of the state committee affords a
fair measure of the rebound of the
party in this state.

Nor is there any comfort for the
Democrats in looking at the mount-
ing pluralities for the Republican
state ticket, which this year reached
the average of 80,000. A glance at
the yearly increase in the G. O. P.'s
representation in the Legislature
since 1914 when the Progressives
held the balance of power scarcely
bears out the expectations of those
who a little while ago were saying
that the Republican party had shot
its bolt. With a majority of 114
in the House and with only six
Democrats in the Senate the Repub-
licans have reasons to worry only on
account of the unwieldiness of their
majority.—Boston Herald.

MULLIGAN and ROCHE'S FOR CHRISTMAS GIFTS For Men, Boys and Children



SUITS! OVERCOATS! HATS! CAPS!
Mackinaw, Sweater Coats, Silk Umbrellas, Silk Handkerchiefs,
Silk Socks, Underwear, Night Shirts, Pyjamas, Waist Coats,
Fur Caps, Fur Gloves, Dress Gloves

Christmas Neckwear
At 25c, 35c, 50c, 75c, \$1, \$1.50, \$2, \$2.50

Fancy Suspenders, Arm Bands, Garters, Bath Robes, House
Coats, Knit Gloves and Mittens; Rockwood, Bradford and
Cooper's Underwear; Wool Hosiery (all styles); Cuff Buttons,
Collar Buttons, Scarf Pins, Tie Holders, Cotton Cuffs, Negligee
Shirts, Soft Cuff Shirts, Silk Shirt Belts

**Pontiac Jackets, Beach Jackets,
Fancy Reefers, Toques, Toboggan**

Wool Sets, Aviation Caps

Silk Sweaters, Suit Cases, Traveling Bags, Collar Boxes, Rain
Coats, Shoes and Rubbers

A Large Assortment in all Linens

Santa Claus Headquarters

Open Every Evening Till Xmas



P. A. puts new joy
into the sport of
smoking!

YOU may live to
be 110 and never
feel old enough to
vote, but it's cer-
tain-sure you'll not
know the joy and
contentment of a
friendly old jimmy
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with Prince Albert tobacco!

P. A. comes to you with a *real reason* for all the
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You can smoke it long and hard without a come-
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Prince Albert affords the keenest pipe and cigarette
enjoyment! And that flavor and fragrance and
coolness is as good as that sounds. P. A. just
answers the universal demand for tobacco
without bite, parch or kick-back!

Introduction to Prince Albert isn't any harder
than to walk into the nearest place that sells
tobacco and ask for "a supply of P. A." You pay
out a little change, to be sure, but it's the cheer-
fullest investment you ever made!

PRINCE the national joy smoke ALBERT

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CHRISTMAS THRIFT CLUB

Open for Membership December 26th

Deposits of 25c weekly. Members receive at the end of fifty weeks \$12.50 plus interest
Deposits of 50c weekly. Members receive at the end of fifty weeks \$25.00 plus interest
Deposits of \$1.00 weekly. Members receive at the end of fifty weeks \$50.00 plus interest
Deposits of \$2.00 weekly. Members receive at the end of fifty weeks \$100.00 plus interest

Everybody needs money for Christmas. Many people have trouble in providing a
sufficient amount to buy all the presents needed when the time comes. We offer an easy
plan to meet such a contingency. On December 26th we will start a *Christmas Thrift
Club*. Members will pay a small amount each week for fifty weeks and at the end of that
time will receive checks for the total amount they have paid in, plus interest. The plan is
simple and systematic

DID YOU HAVE ENOUGH MONEY FOR CHRISTMAS?

Were you able to do all the little things you would like to have done? Were all your
family, friends and associates remembered at the Holiday Season just as you would have
wished? Wouldn't a little extra money have come in mighty handy? If so, then start
now for next Christmas by joining our

Christmas Thrift Club

Make a small deposit every week and when the Club matures next December you will
be surprised at the small little sum you will have accumulated, made larger by interest.
Plans to suit every size purse offered. Join, and get your friends to join.

We are anxious and desirous of having everyone in North Bennington
and vicinity join this Club. Yours for service.

**First National Bank
North Bennington, Vt.**